**SCOTTSDALE** - U.S. Rep. Harry E. Mitchell today issued the following statement on the ninth anniversary of the September 11th terrorist attacks:

"Today, we remember the thousands of innocent men, women and children who lost their lives nine years ago, on September 11, 2001. We take this day to honor the first responders who sacrificed their lives to save others, recognize their service, and remember the strength of our nation. My thoughts and prayers are with those who lost loved ones on that fateful day.

We also honor the brave men and women of the Armed Forces who fight to keep us safe.

As a nation, we must continue to vigorously fight terrorism and its threats to Americans both home and abroad. We must work hard to ensure that all critical steps are being taken to improve our safety and security, including defeating terrorists and preventing horrible acts like this from ever happening again."

Earlier this year, Mitchell voted for H.R. 847, the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act of 2010 to provide funding for a program to monitor and treat health conditions related to the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center. It also would reopen the 9/11 Victim Compensation Fund to provide monetary compensation for those physically injured by the attacks or response activities and debris removal.

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